<u>REMARKS</u>

The Office Action dated November 16, 2006, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1-22 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 11, and 22 are independent claims. Claims 23-30 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-22 stand allowed, and consequently the application is in condition for allowance.

Claims 23-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,822,940 of Zavalkovsky et al. ("Zavalkovsky") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,473,815 of Lu et al. ("Lu"). This rejection is moot and its withdrawal is respectfully requested because claims 23-30 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

As noted above, claims 1-22 have been allowed. Applicant thanks the Examiner for this indication of allowance. Because claims 1-22 are the only claims pending in the application, it is respectfully requested that the application be issued as a U.S. patent. Claims 1-22 have been amended, but it is respectfully submitted that these amendments do not adversely affect the allowability of the claims.

If, for any reason, the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,

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